

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **INGLESE, Pat**

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Serial No.:

For: **WET (PLASTIC) AND DRY CONCRETE RECLAMATION/DISPOSAL DEVICE**

Mail Stop - Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.102(c)

Dear Sir:

This is a Petition to Make Special the above-identified patent application. The basis for this petition is that the present invention materially enhances the quality of the environment of mankind by contributing to the restoration or maintenance of basic life-sustaining natural elements. In accordance with MPEP 708.02 V, a statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.102 by the Applicant explaining how the invention materially enhances the quality of the environment of mankind is attached hereto.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that this Petition to Make Special be granted and the examination of the application be advanced.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Barry E. Kaplan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barry" and last name "Kaplan" clearly distinguishable.

Barry E. Kaplan, Esq.
Reg. No. 38,934

Date: Nov. 25, 2003

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STATEMENT FOR PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.102(c)

Applicant's Invention Materially Enhances the Quality of the Environment of Mankind:

Most concrete mixing and handling equipment require cleaning for purposes of maintaining the useful life of the equipment and for removal of residual set and unset product. Set concrete will interfere with the operation of equipment and the delivery of the concrete product by restricting and impeding movement of the flowable concrete through the equipment. Thus, it is necessary to rinse unset concrete out of the equipment prior to the setting or hardening of the concrete because, once hardened or set, concrete is extremely difficult to remove. As such, water is typically utilized to carry out, or rinse out, the residual concrete and leave the equipment clean. Since concrete mixing and applying equipment is typically located at construction sites, there is often little or no containment readily available for materials that are discharged, either deliberately through cleaning or through spillage.

However, due to environmental concerns, concrete can no longer be flushed out of ready mix trucks or pumps onto vacant or unimproved land, as concrete and the chemicals therein have a devastating effect on water (underground or otherwise), soil, flora and fauna. Moreover, the water utilized for cleaning concrete from tools and equipment may no longer run into storm sewer systems, as the chemicals and concrete sediment are often difficult to fully remove from the sewage water during treatment of same. If residual concrete and/or cleaning water carrying concrete is discharged, either deliberately through cleaning or through spillage onto vacant or unimproved land, sewers, roadways, or otherwise, those parties responsible are often assessed

heavy fines and/or penalties from the government, including the Environmental Protection Agency and from local authorities.

As such, the present invention materially enhances the quality of the environment of mankind by providing a device and method for the containment and reclamation of concrete and related materials, wherein the present invention can be utilized to contain concrete spills, along with hydraulic and oil spills from equipment; thus, preventing environmental contamination.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pat Inglese', written over a horizontal line.

Pat Inglese, Applicant

Date: 11-25-03